GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:372
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2005
STRENGTHENING TIES WITH IRAQ
Patil Shri Balasaheb Vikhe;Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the views expressed by the Union Government regarding the new Government formed in Iraq;

(b) whether the return to democracy after elections there, is a positive sign in strengthening ties with Iraq; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/ being taken by the Union Government in this direction?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a), (b) & (c) A new government in Iraq has not yet been formed. The holding of elections in Iraq on January 30, 2005 is a noteworthy development that would hopefully set in motion a process that would lead the Iraqi people taking full control of their destiny.